

CLAIMS

What is claimed and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is as follows:

1. A spinal fusion cage apparatus for implanting between adjacent vertebrae and comprising:
 - a) an inferior leg with an inferior support surface for supporting engagement with an inferior vertebra;
 - b) a superior leg with a superior support surface for supporting engagement with a superior vertebra adjacent said inferior vertebra;
 - c) said superior leg being pivotally connected to said inferior leg by a pivot joint having a lateral axis to form an articulated spinal fusion cage having a posterior end and an opposed anterior end;
 - d) a threaded driver member adjustably engaged between said inferior leg and said superior leg to position said superior leg at a selected angle relative to said inferior leg;
 - e) said pivot joint being inset a selected distance anteriorly from said posterior end of said cage to impart a selected spacing and relative angular relationship between said inferior and superior vertebrae;

- f) said pivot joint including a knuckle positioned on said inferior leg and extending toward said superior leg, said knuckle having an elongated cylindrical socket extending laterally thereof;
- g) said knuckle having a threaded bore formed therethrough and threadedly receiving said driver member;
- h) said pivot joint including a cylindrical pivot member extending laterally across said superior leg, said pivot member being received in said knuckle to pivotally connect said superior leg to said inferior leg;
- i) said pivot member having a notch formed therein to enable clearance by said driver member;
- j) said notch in said pivot member cooperating with said driver member to prevent relative lateral displacement of said superior leg and said inferior leg;
- k) said superior leg including a sloped inferior bearing surface;
- l) said driver member including a head;
- m) said driver member head engages said sloped inferior bearing surface to position said superior leg at a selected angle relative to said inferior leg;
- n) said sloped inferior bearing surface including a groove for receiving said driver member;

- o) said inferior and superior support surfaces including ports for permitting bone cells to grow therethrough and fuse said inferior and superior vertebrae;
- p) said inferior and superior support surfaces each including serrations for preventing disengagement of said spinal fusion cage from said inferior and superior vertebrae; and
- q) said superior leg including a stop structure for abutting engagement with said inferior leg.